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For Immediate Release

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## Kingsbury Utility rate cases: April 21 public hearing in LaPorte

The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) is inviting consumer comments on Kingsbury Utility Corporation's water and sewer rate increase requests.

Consumers may comment by:

- 1. Speaking at the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission's (IURC's) public field hearing in LaPorte on Tuesday, April 21, 2015, or
- 2. Sending written comments to the OUCC by Wednesday, May 4, 2015.

The April 21 IURC public field hearing will be held at the Kesling Middle School Auditorium (306 E. 18th St. in LaPorte) at 6:00 p.m. local time. The OUCC will conduct an informational meeting at 5:30 p.m. local time, immediately before the field hearing.

- Oral and written consumer comments will be accepted during the hearing.
- Comments carry equal weight whether they are oral or written, and will become part of the cases' evidentiary records.
- Commissioners are not allowed to answer questions during the field hearing. However, OUCC and IURC staff will be available before, during and after the hearing.

Kingsbury Utility Corporation is a privately owned utility providing water and sewer service to approximately 100 residential and commercial customers in LaPorte County. It is seeking IURC approval to issue up to \$700,000 in long-term debt while proposing a two-phase rate increase:

	Current Monthly	Requested Rate Upon	Requested Rate Upon
	Residential Rate	IURC Order (Phase 1)	Debt Approval (Phase 2)
Water (5,000 gallons)	\$18.75	\$43.90	\$47.75
Sewer (Flat Rate)	\$32.69	\$50.52	\$61.29

According to its filings, the utility is requesting the changes due to increases in operating and maintenance costs and to pay for a number of capital improvements that involve replacing and repairing aging infrastructure.

Kingsbury's current water and sewer rates were approved in 2008.

The OUCC – the state agency representing consumer interests in cases before the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) – is reviewing the utility's requests and has not yet taken a position in these cases. The OUCC is scheduled to complete its review and file its reports with the Commission on May 11, 2015.

For more information on these cases, including the utility's filings, please visit www.in.gov/oucc/2515.htm.

Consumers who wish to submit written comments may do so via the OUCC's Website at <a href="www.in.gov/oucc/2361.htm">www.in.gov/oucc/2361.htm</a>, or by mail, email or fax:

Mail: Consumer Services Staff
Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor
115 W. Washington St., Suite 1500 South
Indianapolis, IN 46204

• email: uccinfo@oucc.IN.gov

• Fax: (317) 232-5923

Written comments the OUCC receives by May 4, 2015 will be filed with the Commission and included in the cases' formal evidentiary records. Comments should include the consumer's name, mailing address, and a reference to "IURC Cause Nos. 44589-U and 44590-U." Consumers with questions about submitting written comments can contact the OUCC's consumer services staff toll-free at 1-888-441-2494.

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(IURC Cause Nos. 44589-U, 44590-U)

The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) represents Indiana consumer interests before state and federal bodies that regulate utilities. As a state agency, the OUCC's mission is to represent all Indiana consumers to ensure quality, reliable utility services at the most reasonable prices possible through dedicated advocacy, consumer education, and creative problem solving.

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